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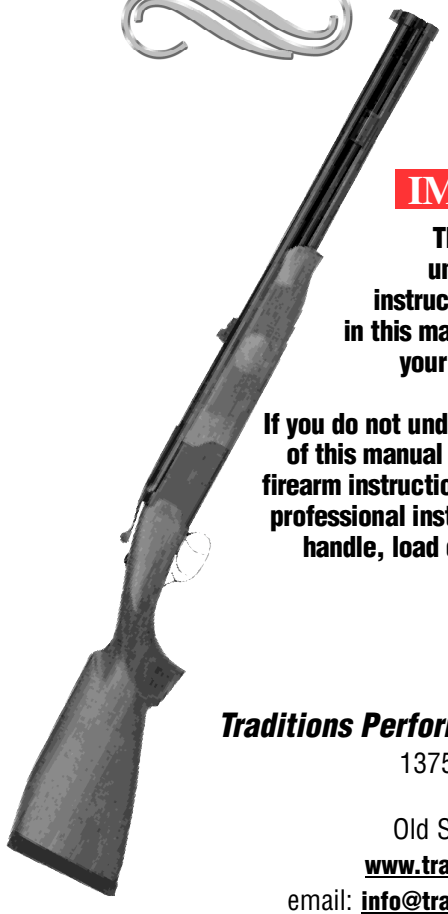
Traditions™

PERFORMANCE FIREARMS

Muzzleloader Owner's Manual

express double™



IMPORTANT!

Thoroughly read and understand all of the instructions and warnings in this manual BEFORE using your Traditions firearm.

If you do not understand any aspect of this manual seek black powder firearm instruction from a qualified, professional instructor BEFORE you handle, load or use this firearm.

Traditions Performance Firearms
1375 Boston Post Road
P.O. Box 776
Old Saybrook, CT 06475
www.traditionsfirearms.com
email: **info@traditionsfirearms.com**

Place Postage Here.
Or for additional security enclose in a envelope.

Traditions™
PERFORMANCE FIREARMS
P.O. Box 776
Old Saybrook, CT 06475-0776

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If you sell, trade or give this rifle to another person, be sure to give the new owner a copy of this manual. Copies of this manual are available free of charge from Traditions Performance Firearms. Call 1-800-526-9556, or fax 860-388-4657 or email us at info@traditionsfirearms.com

FOR YOUR RECORDS

Important: Please record information here and keep for your record.

Model No. _____

Serial No. _____

Model Name _____

Caliber _____

Date Purchased_____

From_____

Registration Card mailed on _____

CAUTION: Please read and understand all information in this booklet before using your new Traditions firearm. If all safety information is not read and the WARNING, CAUTION and IMPORTANT statements are not understood, death or injury could result.

Please call Traditions Customer Service Department at 1-800-526-9556 with any questions or concerns.

Traditions™

PERFORMANCE FIREARMS

YOUR MUZZLELOADING RIFLE

Congratulations on your purchase of the new ***Traditions™ Express Double™ Muzzleloader.*** You have selected a muzzleloading firearm designed and engineered to give today's shooters the highest performance and optimum accuracy. When given the respect and care that any firearm demands, you can expect many years of reliable service and enjoyable hunting from your new Traditions muzzleloader.

The ***Traditions™ Express Double™ Muzzleloader*** is based on a pre-existing concept of the double rifle that uses two barrels with an over/under type action. The ***Express Double Muzzleloader*** is not made to shoot long distances and is intended to shoot at a maximum of 100 yards. The ***ETraditions™ Express Double™ Muzzleloader*** uses 24" fully rifled barrels with a 1 in 28" twist to provide you with a well balance and hard hitting muzzleloader. This high grade, innovative muzzleloader provides you with that all important second shot that can come in handy when hunting big game! The ***Traditions™ Express Double™ Muzzleloader*** provides you with a high grade action with four locking lugs to support up to 150 grain powder charge in both barrels. The 10.5 pound weight of the ***Traditions™ Express Double™ Muzzleloader*** is considered to be a perfect weight ratio for a .50 caliber double gun. It is not terribly heavy to carry yet it is heavy enough to provide you with good recoil reduction and will allow you to set up for that important second shot. Both barrels have a 209 primer breech plug system installed to provide you with a sure fire ignition of both barrels. We have drilled & tapped the barrel to utilize the provided steel, Weaver® style 1-piece base to mount a scope or red dot sight. An adjustable, fiber optic rear sight is used with a fixed front sight that is built into the Barrel Jack. (The Barrel Jack is fully explained later in this manual and is an important feature/part to the regulating of the top barrel.)

A person using any firearm has elected to take on an enormous responsibility. This manual contains instructions, cautions and dangers for the safe enjoyable use of your Traditions muzzleloader. Shooting a firearm is a serious endeavor. These instructions and precautions should always be followed during each shooting session.

IMPORTANT!

A person using any firearm has elected to take on an enormous responsibility. This manual contains instructions, cautions and dangers for the safe enjoyable use of your Traditions muzzleloader. Shooting a firearm is a serious endeavor. These instructions and precautions should always be followed during each shooting session.

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TRADITIONS' WARRANTY PROTECTION INCLUDED WITH YOUR NEW GUN

Thank you for purchasing the Traditions muzzleloader. Quality, pride and old world craftsmanship has gone into your new Traditions muzzleloader. We work hard to provide the best value and performance possible, we back it up with a limited lifetime warranty. Should you ever experience mechanical difficulty with your new Traditions firearm, be assured that we are staffed and equipped to correct it quickly. Your satisfaction with your firearm is very important to Traditions.

PLEASE HELP US SERVE YOU BETTER

In the unlikely event you need warranty service on your new firearm, we need your help to get the work done right and without delay. It's as easy as dropping us a note or picking up the telephone.

Traditions conveniently engraves the caliber, serial number and model name on each barrel. Take note of this information, record it on the warranty page in this manual and be prepared to state it when contacting the Traditions Customer Service Department with your questions.

Contact Traditions at 1-800-526-9556, tell us what problem you are experiencing and we'll get busy to remedy your situation.

Help is just a phone call away should you experience a problem. Simply follow these four simple steps and we'll get your firearm back in perfect working order in the shortest possible time.

1. **Do not return your firearm to the dealer. You can save time by following the steps outlined below.**
2. Do call us and describe the problem. Chances are we can either guide you to a solution right over the phone or when possible send you the parts you need to correct the problem.
3. Should your gun need factory service, we will give you instructions about where to ship it and issue you a Return Merchandise Authorization number.
4. We will inspect your firearm and make necessary repairs that are covered under warranty.

Often we can help you by phone, call before you return your Traditions firearm for service. Good Shooting!

1-800-526-9556

Important: All firearms must have a factory issued Return Merchandise Authorization number (RMA#) before returning to Traditions for warranty service.

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LIMITED LIFETIME MECHANICAL WARRANTY

Traditions will provide a warranty for this muzzleloading firearm (or parts in a kit to be built) to be free of mechanical defects in materials or craftsmanship for the life of the firearm, while in the possession of the original owner with the exception of wooden stocks. Traditions will repair or replace, at its' own option, products or parts that are returned at owner's expense to the Traditions Customer Service Department. A full explanation of the specific problem must accompany the returned item. Call 1-800-526-9556 to obtain a factory issued return authorization number (RMA#).

Firearms packaged and shipped improperly are not covered under warranty if damage occurs.

This warranty shall remain in force unless any of the following are determined by the Traditions Customer Service Department:

1. **Use of any propellant other than black powder, Pyrodex® or Triple 7®.**
2. **Use of any powder charge in excess of those recommended in this booklet.**
3. **Use of any plastic patching material with round balls.**
4. **Modification of internal parts as they were shipped from the factory.**
5. **A lack of proper maintenance and thorough cleaning is evident such as rust.**
6. **Customer abuse.**

PARTS & SERVICE

To Order Parts:
ALL PARTS ARE SUBJECT TO A SHIPPING & HANDLING CHARGE. Some parts are restricted and may only be installed by returning the muzzleloader to us. When ordering parts, please state the Model, Serial Number and Finish color. For parts information, call 800-526-9556.

To Order Service:
To obtain information about returning your rifle for service or repairs you must obtain an RA# by calling 800-526-9556.

For any Warranty Repair Shipment:
YOU MUST INCLUDE THE RETURN AUTHORIZATION NUMBER (RA#), PROOF OF PURCHASE AND FREIGHT PREPAID TO:

WARNING!

It is illegal to ship a LOADED FIREARM!!! MAKE SURE YOU UNLOAD THE FIREARM BEFORE SHIPPING TO TRADITIONS.

Traditions Firearms
Attn: Warranty Repair
1375 Boston Post Road
Old Saybrook, CT 06475

*IF YOU DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR RA# ON YOUR SHIPMENT THE TURN AROUND ON YOUR REPAIR ISSUE WILL BE DELAYED. The RA# is a reference number assigned to your return issue and gives the Traditions Customer Service representative your name, address, phone # and complete details about your return.

Other Info:
Tel. 800-526-9556
Fax. 860-388-4657

Website: www.traditionsfirearms.com
E-mail: info@traditionsfirearms.com

Business hours: M-TH. 8:00-5:00 EST
Fri. 8:00-12:30 EST (Fall hunting season hours will be extended on Fridays until 4pm)

If you are unsure how to package your firearm for return, ask your service representative when obtaining your RA#.

Traditions™
PERFORMANCE FIREARMS

I. THE SPORT OF MUZZLELOADING

More and more sportsmen have discovered the challenges and enjoyment of muzzleloading in the past years. For both hunting and target shooting, muzzleloading guns have helped a modern generation recapture and enjoy an important aspect of our nation's sporting past.

Traditions™ Muzzleloaders are firearms that represent the latest developments in this unique part of the shooting sports. They are manufactured to modern standards for safe and enjoyable shooting.

This booklet is intended as a basic guide for the proper maintenance, loading and shooting of Traditions muzzleloaders, and it offers important rules and precautions for safe handling and shooting of this type of firearm. In addition to this booklet, it is recommended that the novice obtain further information and instruction before firing a muzzleloader.

Sources for this help include:

1. National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association.
2. National Rifle Association.
3. Your town clerk, local sporting goods dealer, state DEP or conservation department.
4. Contact your local muzzleloader or hunting club.

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II. GENERAL SAFETY RULES

WARNING!

This muzzleloader, like other firearms, is potentially a lethal weapon that can cause serious injury, death or damage to property if handled improperly.

Firearms safety is YOUR responsibility!

There is no such thing as a "safe" or "foolproof" firearm. Handling your Traditions firearm safely depends on YOU! Handled safely, your firearm will give years of shooting enjoyment. Handle it carelessly, and YOU will put yourself and everyone around you in danger of serious injury or death. Safety must be the first, foremost and constant consideration of everyone who handles a firearm. When handling a firearm, you cannot guess, you cannot forget, you cannot allow yourself even a momentary lapse of attention or good judgment, or irreversible tragedy may result.

III. RULES OF FIREARMS SAFETY

1. Treat all firearms as if they were loaded, at all times. These accidents can be avoided by handling all firearms the same way you would handle a loaded firearm, at all times. Even after you verify that a gun is unloaded, you should continue handling it as you would a loaded gun, and make sure that others around you do the same.

2. Point the muzzle in a safe direction at all times. A "safe direction" is one in which, if the firearm were to discharge, there would be no injury to anyone. Never point a gun (whether you think it is loaded or unloaded - see Rule #1 above) directly at another person or at yourself. Consider that a bullet can ricochet (glance off) pavement, floors, walls, rocks, the ground, water, ice or almost any other object it strikes. Also, bullets can penetrate walls, ceilings, floors, doors, windows, and many other materials to kill or injure someone on the opposite side.

3. Keep your finger off the trigger and outside the trigger guard until you have decided to fire. If your finger is inside the trigger guard, you could fire your gun without intending to - for instance, if you were startled, or if you slipped or lost your balance. By keeping your finger outside the trigger guard until you are on target and intend to fire, you ensure that you will never hit anything you do not intend to.

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4. Be sure of your target, and what is around and beyond it. The bullet fired from your rifle can travel over one mile, and has the potential to kill or seriously injure someone at that distance! Once you pull the trigger, you cannot call the bullet back, so you must positively identify your target before you fire. Never fire (for instance, at a noise, a movement, a rustling bush, or a shape in the dark) until you have positively identified your target as something you intend to shoot. Fire only with a safe backstop behind your target - something that will stop and contain the bullets you fire, even if you miss the target or your bullet passes through it.

5. Whenever you handle a firearm that, even momentarily, has been out of your direct control, start by checking its condition to determine whether or not it is loaded. A firearm in your hands is a lethal weapon which is YOUR responsibility, so YOU must check it yourself, NOW, not later. Do not rely on someone else to check it. Do not take someone else's word for the firearm's condition. Do not rely on your memory of having checked the firearm previously, or on your belief that you left it unloaded the last time you used or handled it. Check it again yourself now.

6. Never give a firearm to anyone, or take a firearm from anyone, unless it is unloaded and the action is open. If someone tries to hand you a firearm with the action closed, politely ask them to open it before you take it from them. If you need to open the action of a firearm with which you are not familiar, don't

experiment, if you make a fatal mistake! Instead, ask someone who knows how to handle the firearm to open the action and allow you to verify that it is unloaded. If you can't find someone who knows how to handle the firearm, leave it alone!

7. Firearms should be unloaded when not actually in use. Load your firearm only when you are on the target range or in the field and ready to begin using it. Unload your gun as soon as you are finished shooting. Unload your gun before you bring it back into your car, camp or home. Never leave a loaded gun unattended, even for a moment.

8. Thoroughly read and understand the owner's manual and other literature supplied with your firearm. Never use any firearm unless you completely understand how it operates and how its safety features work. Contact Traditions if you have any questions or concerns, or if you are not certain you have all the literature supplied with the firearm at the time it was first sold. Even if you understand everything in this manual, no manual can provide you with the benefits of hands-on firearms instruction. If you are not already an experienced firearms user, you should obtain training in the safe and proper use of firearms by attending one of the many firearms safety and shooting courses offered in all parts of the country by the National Rifle Association (telephone 703-267-1000), gun clubs and ranges, gun shops, shooting schools and other qualified sources of instruction.

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9. Before firing any firearm, be sure it is in good working order and that the barrel is clear of dirt, grease, water, excess oil, rust, corrosion or any other obstruction.

10. Always wear high-quality ear and eye protection when shooting or observing, and be sure that others who are present do the same. Exposure to gunfire noise will cause permanent hearing loss (deafness) if good ear protection (either commercially manufactured ear plugs, earmuff-type hearing protectors, or both) is not worn. Close-fitting, impact-resistant shooting glasses or safety glasses of wraparound or side-panel design help to guard against potentially blinding eye injuries caused by granules of powder, fragments from the target or backstop, metal fragments which can result from a burst primer, etc. Never shoot a firearm, or allow yourself or others to be present where shooting is in progress, without both eye and ear protection in place. Eye protection can also provide important protection while you are disassembling and cleaning your firearms, both from flying firearms parts, and from aerosols and other solvents and cleaning fluids that can spray or splash into your eyes, causing serious eye injury.

11. Firearms, drugs and alcohol don't mix! Never handle firearms while under the influence of alcohol or drugs (including prescription medications) that can impair your normal senses, abilities, alertness, reflexes, perception or judgment. Make sure

everyone in your presence follows the same rule. Also, avoid handling firearms when you are ill, exhausted, upset or preoccupied with other concerns - safe firearms handling requires your full attention, and all of your abilities, unimpaired by other factors.

12. Any firearm, ammunition or supplies which are not under your direct control should be stored so it is inoperable or inaccessible to children and other unauthorized users. Children are attracted to, and can find, load and operate firearms, causing serious injury or death to themselves and others. Preventing child access and tragic, avoidable accidents is YOUR responsibility, as an adult gun owner. The safest way to store firearms is unloaded, locked in a gun safe or vault.

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IV. SAFETY RULES AND PRECAUTIONS FOR FIRING AND USE OF YOUR TRADITIONS FIREARM

WARNING!

Keep the safety engaged in the “Safe” position until you are aimed at a proper target and have decided to fire. Failure to do so could cause serious injury or death.

WARNING!

Use the safety on this rifle, but don’t trust or rely on it as a substitute for safe gun handling practices. The safety is a mechanical device which could fail. Or, by mistake, you may think the safety is on when it is not. Or the safety may become disengaged without your knowledge. Or you could think your gun is unloaded when it is loaded. Always follow the safe gun handling rules and procedures in this manual, whether you think the safety is on or off, and whether you think the rifle is loaded or unloaded. Don’t pull the trigger when the safety is engaged, or when it is positioned part way between Safe and Fire. Don’t use or rely on the safety lever to try to “childproof” your rifle or keep it safe from untrained persons - instead, your rifle should be unloaded and securely locked up, out of access of children and other unauthorized users.

WARNING!

Keep hands, fingers and other body parts from touching the muzzle, barrel or chamber after firing, as they could be burned by hot metal.

WARNING!

If dropped or struck, whether the safety is “on” or “off’, the rifle may fire, causing serious injury or death. Keep the rifle unprimed (without a 209 primer in the breech) unless actually firing! Keep the safety “on” unless actually firing! When carrying or handling the rifle, keep it pointed in a safe direction, and carry it in such a way that you can safely control the direction in which the rifle points even if you should slip, stumble or fall.

WARNING!

Children are attracted to, and can find, load and operate firearms, causing serious injury or death to themselves and others. Prevent child access by always keeping guns locked away and unloaded when not in use. If you leave a gun loaded or unloaded where a child obtains and improperly uses it, you may be fined or sent to prison or both.

Never transport or carry a loaded firearm in a vehicle or otherwise. Always transport or carry your rifle unloaded, with the safety engaged and the action open. A suitable carrying case should be used to transport or carry your unloaded rifle to and from the range or other safe shooting area. Check the laws to determine and follow legal requirements in transporting a firearm in your jurisdiction. Close the rifle’s action and load the rifle only when you are at the range or other safe shooting area, ready to begin shooting.

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Never climb a fence, ladder, tree or other object, jump across a brook or ditch, crawl under a fence or other obstacle, walk across an icy surface, steep slope or other area with poor footing, or cross other slippery or precarious terrain or obstacles with a loaded firearm. Instead, un-prime your firearm first. When carrying your rifle in the field, keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction and carry the rifle so you can safely control the direction in which it points in the event you stumble, slip or fall.

When shooting, be alert to be sure no one comes into the line of fire. Check the backstop and target area carefully to be sure it is free of people each time before you begin to fire.

When firing with a group of people, put a responsible person in charge to maintain safety, discipline and control to reduce the chance of accidents. On a firing range, be alert to the commands of the range officer, and follow them precisely and immediately.

Do not handle a firearm when anyone is forward of the firing position. Before anyone moves downrange to post or check targets or for any other purpose, all firearms should be unloaded, with safeties engaged and actions locked open, and placed safely on the bench where they should not be touched or handled until everyone returns from downrange.

Do not handle firearms when you are tired, cold or impaired physically or mentally, in any way.

Never fire your rifle near an animal, unless it is trained to accept the noise of gunfire. An animal's startled reaction to the sound of gunfire could injure it or could cause an accident.

Never continue to use your rifle if it is not functioning properly. Never force a jammed action, as the jammed cartridge may explode if the primer is crushed or pressed against any metal part of the rifle.

Use only appropriate accessories for your rifle. Be sure all accessories, including slings, ammunition carriers, sights and sight mounts, etc. are compatible with the firearm and do not interfere with its safe operation. If in doubt, contact Traditions. Tradition's is not responsible for any damage or injury caused by the use of improper accessories, and mounting, attachment or use of improper accessories could void the warranty.

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III. MUZZLELOADING 'MUSTS' FOR MUZZLELOADING SUCCESS

You must:

1. Read completely, fully understand and follow all instructions and warranty limitations in this booklet before attempting to shoot your new Traditions muzzleloader.
2. Always treat any firearm as if it is loaded and keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.
3. Always wear proper eye and ear protection when loading or firing any firearm.
4. Don't shoot until you are absolutely sure of your target and what is beyond it. Do not point your firearms at anything you do not intend to shoot. Be sure that all bystanders are safely positioned behind you and that they are aware that you are about to shoot. All bystanders must also wear eye and hearing protection when in the vicinity of anyone using a firearm.
5. Use only the proper grade of black powder or black powder substitutes such as Pyrodex® powder, Pyrodex® Pellets or Triple 7® powder & Triple 7® pellets in properly measured amounts. Be sure to reference the chart in this booklet for recommended loads. Reduce charges of Triple 7 powder by 15%. For example, if you were using 150 grains of Pyrodex® powder and began to use Triple 7® powder, you would only use 130 grains of Triple 7®. Always consult the directions from the powder manufacturer before handling and loading any type of powder.
6. Never use any amount of smokeless gun powder in your muzzleloader. Although also black in color, smokeless powder is a very different chemical composition and it will produce dangerous pressures resulting in serious injury or death to yourself, bystanders and it will destroy your firearm.

7. Never smoke or permit others to smoke in the presence of black powder, Pyrodex®, Triple 7® or any other black powder substitute. Take care to guard against all potential ignition sources.
8. Never take drugs and/or drink alcoholic beverages before and during shooting.
9. Be certain that the powder, patches and projectiles are properly sized and measured and are loaded in the proper sequence and that the projectile is firmly seated on top of the propellant. See Section XI & X for proper loading instructions.
10. Use only cotton or linen shooting patches when loading round lead balls. Do not use any type of plastic patches.
11. Never load powder into a gun directly from a can, powder horn or flask. Always use a separate calibrated powder measuring device. A remaining spark or ember in the barrel may cause an ignition of the powder and cause injury or death to you, bystanders and destroy your firearm.
12. A firearm's safety is a mechanical device which can fail. Always be mindful of where the safety lever is set and routinely verify its setting. Never solely rely on any rifle's safety. Always treat every gun as if it were loaded and ready to fire. Only cap or prime your muzzleloader when you are ready to fire. Uncap or unprime your muzzleloader when you are done shooting or hunting.
13. Always disable your muzzleloader by carefully removing the percussion cap, musket cap or 209 primer and unloading the barrel when immediate shooting is not planned.
14. Never cap your firearm until you are ready to fire. Never install a percussion cap, musket cap or primer on the nipple before the gun is loaded. When loaded, a bump or unintentional pressure could result in the discharge of the firearms resulting in a serious accident.
15. Always store the powder, gun and percussion caps, musket caps or primers in separate locked places. Always keep all firearms and ammunition components secured and separate away from children. Never store a loaded gun.

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16. In the event of a misfire, assume the gun could fire at any moment. Keep gun pointed down range with the action closed. Wait at least one minute before recapping, repriming or removing the load from the barrel.

17. Never load a muzzleloading firearm indoors. Only load your firearm in a location where it is safe to shoot.

18. Be certain that anyone firing this muzzleloader understands and is willing to follow the instructions and precautions in this manual and the fundamentals of safe firearm handling.

19. Always make certain that the safety is in the "on" position and the hammer is in the "at rest" position when installing the primer.

20. A great way to understand more about all types of firearms is to take a Hunter's Safety course.

Take time now to acquaint yourself with your new Traditions Muzzleloader. If you have any questions regarding your muzzleloader after reviewing this information, please contact the Traditions Customer Service Department for assistance at 1-800-526-9556.

VI. WARNINGS SPECIFIC TO THE EXPRESS DOUBLE MUZZLELOADER

1. **Safety** – The safety is located on the top of the receiver just behind the top tang lever. It is an automatic safety which means that when the gun is opened the safety will automatically go back into the "Safe" position when closed. Always check to make sure that the safety is in proper working order.

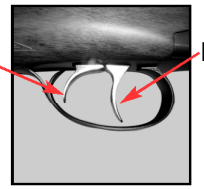
2. **WARNING!!! Do not DOUBLE LOAD the barrels.**
Be mindful of which barrel you have loaded first when using the ***Traditions™ Express Double™ Muzzleloader***. Create a consistent pattern or habit of putting the ramrod into the loaded barrel to remind you that the barrel is loaded.

3. Be mindful of what you are doing when loading and firing any firearm. If you become distracted while loading the firearm you may forget which barrel you have loaded or not loaded and double up on the load which can cause death and/or serious injury to you and/or any bystanders.

4. If you load both barrels, fire off both barrels or remove the breech plugs and push out the remaining charges the barrels. If you only fire one of the two barrels, the other barrel is still LOADED and PRIMED and can be fired.

5. If you only fire off one barrel you must remove the 209 primer out of BOTH breech plugs before re-loading any of the barrels. Do not leave the 209 primer in any of the breech plugs when loading any of the barrels. Always remove spent 209 primers from the breech plugs.

6. **Double Trigger** - Front trigger fires the bottom barrel and the rear trigger fires the top barrel and is not adjustable.



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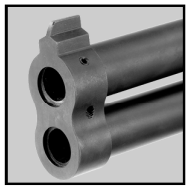
7. Make sure you remove the ramrod from the thimble & forend before removing the forend. If you try to remove the forend with the ramrod in place you may crack the forend. This will not be covered under the Warranty and you will have to purchase a new one.

8. The **Ramrod** provided is much smaller than a typical .50 caliber ramrod so that you will be able to remove the rod from the forend quickly & easily. We recommend for you to also purchase the Traditions #A1590 Lightning Range rod that is 36" long and durable which will make constant loading and cleaning easier.

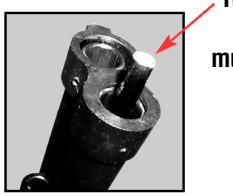
9. **Barrel Jack** – This part allows the gun to regulate both barrels at a maximum of 100 yards. Make sure you fully understand the section in the owner's manual detailing the adjustment procedure before making any changes or adjustments to this part.



10. A steel scope base is provided with each ***Traditions™ Express Double™ Muzzleloader*** because of its' own hole pattern and style. Make sure you use the designated base to mount any scope or red dot sight.

VII. MAKE SURE THAT THE MUZZLELOADER IS UNLOADED BEFORE PROCEEDING.

To check if the muzzleloader is unloaded, remove the ramrod, unscrew the jag and re-attach at the opposite end of the jag to make the ramrod longer. Place the ramrod down the barrel. The ramrod should sit 3/4" above the muzzle. You should also be able to hear a metallic sound of the jag hitting the face of the breech plug. If your ramrod extends beyond the muzzle or you do not hear a metallic sound you will need to disassemble the muzzleloader and remove the obstruction before proceeding.



BEFORE YOU USE YOUR MUZZLELOADER, CLEAN & LUBRICATE IT!

The following instructions give you a quick rundown on what to do before you use your muzzleloader for the first time. Please review the disassembly instructions in this manual for a complete set of instructions. When you first remove the new muzzleloader from the box there will be some manufacturing oils and grease on the metal parts for shipping purposes. These residues need to be removed so that the muzzleloader will function properly.

WARNING!

Make sure the firearm is unloaded with the safety in the "SAFE" position. Refer to Section VI for safety operation.

1. Remove ramrod from the thimbles. (Note: The ***Traditions™ Express Double™*** ramrod is slightly smaller in diameter than a normal .50 caliber so that it will allow you to easily remove and replace it from the thimble & forend. (We recommend that you purchase the Traditions #A1590 Lightning Range Rod to make loading and cleaning easier.)

2. Remove forend by pulling up on latch to free it from the barrel assembly.

3. Unscrew and remove BOTH breech plugs by using the breech plug wrench supplied with the muzzleloader. It may be helpful to lock the barrels into a "padded" vice to give you leverage when removing the breech plugs.

IMPORTANT - Look through & visually inspect that there is no obstructions in each barrel when the breech plugs are removed.

4. Clean the inside & outside of the barrels and both breech plugs with Traditions EZ Clean™ muzzleloader bore solvent. (Traditions #A1436, #A1750, #A1760) This will remove any manufacturing residue that may be on the inside or outside of the barrel.

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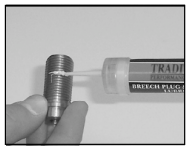
5. Dry all of the parts completely. Make sure you can see daylight through each breech plug by holding them up to a light. Use a few dry, cleaning patches to dry the inside of the bore.

6. Apply a light coat of Tradition's Wonderlube 1000 Plus® (use #A1362 - Tradition's pre-lubricated patches) and run one patch up & down the bore to "season" the lands & grooves of the rifling before loading. This will allow for easier loading and cleaning throughout your shooting sessions.

7. Generously lubricate the threads of BOTH breech plugs with Tradition's Breech plug grease (#A1580).



VIII. SAFETIES INCLUDED WITH YOUR MUZZLELOADER

The ***Traditions™ Express Double™ Muzzleloader*** uses an automatic top tang safety mechanism. This is a mechanical safety that blocks the triggers from being pulled. The automatic safety operates in the way that when the gun is opened the safety will automatically go back into the "Safe" or "ON" position when closed. If you intend of firing the muzzleloader again, after opening the action, you will need to push the safety into the "FIRE" or "OFF" position.

Top Tang Safety operation –

Push forward for "FIRE" or "OFF"

Push rearward for "SAFE" or "ON"

WARNING!

Check and inspect the safety for proper function before each use and after each cleaning. Failure to follow this rule can result in an accidental discharge which may cause injury and/or death to the shooter or bystanders and damage to property.

CAUTION:

With the safety set in the "Fire" or "OFF" position the gun is now ready to fire. Never rely totally on the firearms mechanical "safety" device. The word "Safety" describes a firearms trigger block mechanism. This mechanical device is designed to place your firearm in a safer status. No Guarantee can be made that the firearm absolutely will not fire even if the safety is set on the "Safe" or "ON" position. Like any mechanical device, a "Safety" can sometimes fail. It can be jarred or inadvertently manipulated into an unsafe condition. Never test the safety while your firearm is loaded or while it is pointed in an unsafe direction.

IX. ASSEMBLING YOUR EXPRESS DOUBLE MUZZLELOADER

Installation of the Barrels to the Receiver:

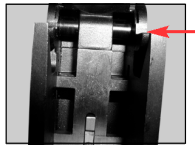
1. Remove ramrod from the thimbles. (Note: The Express Double ramrod is slightly smaller in diameter than a normal .50 caliber so that it will allow you to easily remove and replace it from the thimble & forend.

2. Remove forend by pulling up on latch to free it from the barrel assembly.

3. Push the top lever to the right until it locks into place. This will allow you to install the barrels into the receiver.

4. Take the barrel assembly in one hand and the receiver in the other and guide the front locking lugs into the receiver pins on the bottom of the receiver. Make sure that the barrels hook into the receiver by lifting lightly on the barrels and pulling away to check if secure.

REMINDER – Barrels will not close without the top lever locked into place.



Hook barrels into receiver pins first, then lift barrels up into receiver.

5. Close the barrels until the top lever snaps back into place. (Require photo)

6. Install the forend back into place starting with the bottom then bring the top to the barrels and push the forend into place until the release lever snaps closed.

NOTE – Do not force the forend into place, this part will fit easily. If it is not installing easily then you do not have it aligned properly and should remove and start over.

7. Return ramrod inside the thimble and forend.

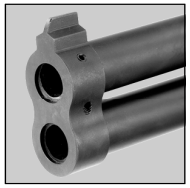
8. Now you are ready to learn about the Barrel Jack which is the part of the gun that regulates the TOP barrel. Please read this section carefully before loading the firearm.

For reasons of safety and proper performance, these loading instructions for your Traditions muzzleloader must be followed closely. While some of the procedures may seem cumbersome, with practice they will soon become second nature and will make for safe, dependable and accurate shooting. (It is very helpful to have an experienced black powder shooter with you the first few times you load and shoot your muzzleloader.) If, after reading these instructions you still have questions concerning the safe use of your muzzleloader, contact Traditions Customer Service Department. 1-800-526-9556.

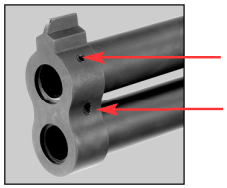
X. BARREL ADJUSTMENT JACK

This is a very IMPORTANT section about regulating the barrels and must be followed closely. You must read all sections of this instruction manual before loading or firing the muzzleloader.

Make sure you read and fully understand this section to become familiar about the Barrel Jack and how it works. Then, go to the Loading & Shooting section of the manual to fully understand all instructions on how to load the Express Double. This section is only about the Barrel Jack and may not give you detailed instructions about loading & shooting the muzzleloader.



This barrel jack is a very sensitive part that allows you to adjust the top barrel so that it shoots close to where the bottom barrel is shooting. Most, if not all double barrel firearms are made for short distance shooting out to about 100 yards and the Express Double falls into that category. You will need to find out which load will shoot the best for both barrels to obtain an acceptable group. The Barrel Jack will help you get this grouping by adjusting the 4 set screws installed into the four sides of the jack. The 4 set screws installed into the jack will move the top barrel only to the left, right, up and down position. Set screws heads measure 2mm.



2mm set screws – 2 on each side of Jack

We recommend that you fully understand how the Barrel Jack works before sighting in or shooting the gun. By understanding how the set screws move the Jack in different directions you will be able to regulate the TOP barrel easier than going in blind and becoming frustrated at the range. Refer to the sample targets in this manual showing you examples of what direction to move the Barrel Jack when barrel is shooting at a certain point on the target.

GETTING STARTED

When sighting in at the range use 2 separate targets, one for the BOTTOM barrel and one for the TOP barrel.

IMPORTANT:

We insist that you begin sighting in your Express Double muzzleloader at 25 YARDS. This is only to get you on the paper and to figure out where both barrels are shooting. You can move out to 50, 75 and 100 only after you get the barrels regulated at 25 yards. It is much easier to adjust the barrels at 25 yards than at 75 yards because a very small barrel movement is magnified greatly at 75 yards compared to 25 yards.

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NOTE – The front trigger fires the BOTTOM barrel and the rear trigger fires the TOP barrel.

1. Load ONLY the bottom barrel and use the sights provided on the top barrel to sight in the bottom barrel first. Until the bottom barrel is sighted in DO NOT use the top barrel or adjust any of the SET SCREWS in the barrel jack. Start out by sighting in the bottom barrel at 25 to 50 yards maximum.
2. After the BOTTOM Barrel is sighted in at a maximum of 50 yards, you may now proceed to load and sight in the TOP barrel.

CAUTION

Do not load the bottom barrel during this procedure because you are concentrating on ONLY sighting in the top barrel and do not want to get confused or forget that you loaded the bottom barrel causing an accidental discharge. There should not be a live 209 primer in any of the breech plugs at this time.

TOP BARREL ADJUSTMENT WITH BARREL JACK

UNDERSTANDING BARREL ADJUSTMENT

To move the point of impact of the bullet it is important to understand how to adjust the Jack.

1. Load the TOP barrel with the same powder charge and bullet to begin sighting in the barrel.

NOTE – You may load two different charges and bullets into the top & bottom barrels but it is highly recommended that you load the same charge and bullet when sighting in for the first time.

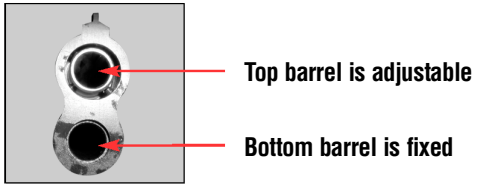
2. Shoot a 3 shot group to find the point of impact for the TOP barrel. Do not move sights or adjust set screws during this procedure because you are only trying to find out where the point of impact is on the target.

3. You have found the point of impact for the TOP barrel. Now is the time to adjust the Barrel Jack with the set screws if needed. You may not need to adjust this part if the TOP barrel is close to the BOTTOM barrel.

ADJUSTING THE BARREL JACK

This can be a timely matter and you must have patience when regulating the barrel.

NOTE – Make only small adjustments with the set screws each time you adjust the barrel because by making large movements in the jack will change your point of impact greatly.



1. Top, Right screw – Moves barrel DOWN & LEFT when screwed down
2. Bottom, Right screw – Moves barrel UP & LEFT when screwed down
3. Top, Left screw – Moves barrel DOWN & RIGHT when screwed down
4. Bottom, Left screw – Moves barrel UP & RIGHT when screwed down

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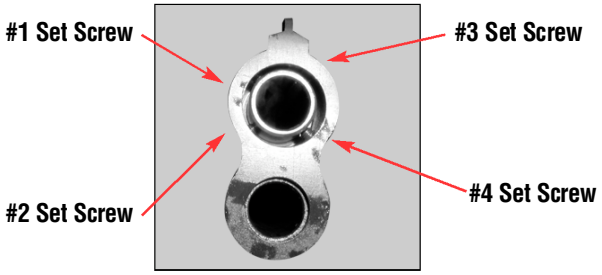
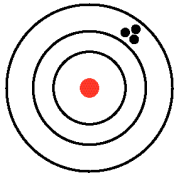




Example #1: Top Barrel is shooting HIGH & RIGHT.

Group 1: Show rifle target with 3 shot group here.

Step #1 – Loosen bottom, left (#4) set screw 1/2" to 3/4" of a turn out.

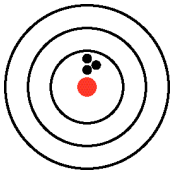
Step #2 – Loosen top, left (#3) set screw _ of a turn out.

Step #3 – Tighten top, right (#1) set screw until hand tight. (This will move the barrel left & down.)

Step #4 – Check bottom, right (#2) set screw for tightness, if loose you will need to tighten.

Step #5 – Check all set screws to be tight.

Shoot another 3 shot group.



Example #1: Top Barrel is shooting HIGH with WINDAGE good.

Group 2: Show rifle target with 3 shot group here.

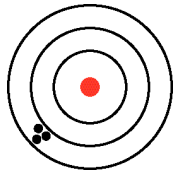
Step #1 – Loosen BOTH BOTTOM (#2 & #4) set screws 1/2" to 3/4" of a turn out.

Step #2 – Tighten BOTH TOP (#1 & #3) set screws until hand tight.

Step #3 – Check all set screws to be tight.

NOTE – If shot group is still not where you need it to be, repeat Steps above in the direction the bullets needs to move in VERY SMALL INCREMENTS. Repeat until the bullets is hitting where you want it to hit.

Example #2: Top Barrel is shooting LOW & LEFT.



Group 1: Show rifle target with 3 shot group here.

Step #1 – Loosen TOP, RIGHT (#1) set screw 1/2" to 3/4" turn OUT.

Step #2 – Loosen TOP, LEFT (#3) set screw just enough for barrel to move.

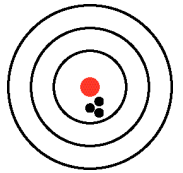
Step #3 – Tighten BOTTOM, LEFT (#4) set screw until tight.

Step #4 – Check all set screws to be tight.

Shoot another 3 shot group.

Example #2: Top Barrel is shooting LOW with WINDAGE is good.

Group 2: Show rifle target with 3 shot group here.



Step #1 – Loosen BOTH TOP (#1 & #3) set screws 1/2" to 3/4" turn OUT.

Step #2 – Tighten BOTH BOTTOM (#2 & #4) set screws until tight.

Step #3 – Tighten all set screws to be tight.

Shoot another 3 shot group.

NOTE – If shot group is still not where you need it to be, repeat steps above in the direction the bullet needs to move in VERY SMALL INCREMENTS. Repeat until the bullets is hitting where you want it to hit.

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XI. BLACK POWDER & BLACK POWDER SUBSTITUTES SECTION:

DANGER:

The use of SMOKELESS POWDER in any TRADITIONS muzzleloaders will result in excessively high pressures and will destroy the rifle and cause injury or death to the shooter and bystanders.

If you have any questions regarding powder velocities and pressures please contact the manufacturer of the propellant.

1. Black powder, Pyrodex™, Pyrodex™ pellets or Triple 7® powder & pellets are the only safe propellants to use in this muzzleloading rifle. Maximum charges of Triple 7® should be reduced by 15%. This means that the maximum amount of Triple 7® powder that can be used is 130 grains.
2. The term "black powder" does not refer to any powder black in color, since modern smokeless powders are also black in color.
3. Be certain that the propellant you select is commercially manufactured black powder, Pyrodex™ or Triple 7® are for use in muzzleloaders.

CAUTION:

Never smoke while loading, shooting or handling propellants. Always follow the manufacturer's safety precautions as listed on the propellant container.

XII. PREPARING TO LOAD THE PROPELLANT:

1. Wear eye protection.
2. Make certain the gun is unloaded.

a. Push safety button to "safe".

b. Insert the ramrod into the barrel. When it is touching the top of the breech plug it should sit approximately 3/4" below the muzzle.

Note: You should hear a metallic sound as the brass jag makes contact with the breech plug.

To remove the obstruction, remove the breech plug. Do not attempt to clear the barrel by firing. Before loading anything into the barrel, clean all oil and grease from inside the barrel. We recommend using Traditions cleaning products to enhance your accuracy and ease shooting & cleaning.

CLEARING THE IGNITION CHANNEL

Follow these steps:

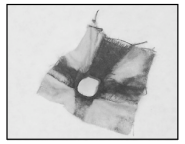
1a. Point the rifle down towards a safe area on the ground and load a primer into both breech plugs.

1b. Fire one or two primers out of each barrel to blow out any oil or residue from the fire channel. Point the muzzle at a leaf or blade of grass to see if it moves. If it moves, you have a clear channel. If not, fire additional primers and /or check the breech plug for obstructions.

2a. Another way to see if you have a clear fire channel is to screw a loading/cleaning jag on your ramrod and place a dry patch on the muzzle of your rifle.

2b. Push the patch down to the breech plug face and leave ramrod & patch in bore. Point the rifle in a safe direction and place a primer in the nipple area of one of the breech plugs and fire two primers off.

2c. Remove ramrod from the bore and inspect patch. Patch should have a complete circular burn in middle. This tells you that you have a clear fire channel.



2d. Repeat the same procedure for the other barrel & breech plug.

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XIII. LOADING THE POWDER FOR MUZZLELOADING RIFLES:

WARNING:

ONLY LOAD ONE BARREL AT A TIME. LOAD THE BOTTOM BARREL FIRST AND THEN THE TOP BARREL.

Traditions recommends that if this is your first experience with a muzzleloader that you should being shooting with a charge of 80 grains of Black powder or Pyrodex® loose or pelletized powder (use 56 grains of Triple 7 loose powder) to lessen the recoil & let yourself get acquainted with your muzzleloader. We recommend using a powder charge between 80 to 150 grains depending on what you are hunting or shooting with your muzzleloader.

The maximum powder load for the Traditions™ Express Double™ Muzzleloader when using Pyrodex® powder is 150 grains.

The maximum powder load for the Traditions™ Express Double™ Muzzleloader when using Triple 7® loose powder is 130 grains.

CAUTION:

Stand the butt of the rifle on the ground so that the muzzle is pointed up and away from you and others. Never work with your face or any part of your body over the muzzle, even when the gun is unloaded.

CAUTION:

Be sure that the firearm is unprimed and the safeties are engaged.

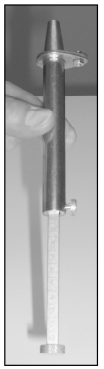
Use only Black Powder, Pyrodex® loose or pelletized powder or Triple 7® loose or pelletized powder. Follow the powder Manufacturer's Instructions when handling any type of powder. Make sure to reduce your charge by 15% when using Triple 7® loose powder.

WHEN LOADING LOOSE POWDER:

a. Fill your Traditions flask with powder.

b. Adjust your Traditions powder measure to the desired charge.

c. Pour powder from your Traditions flask into the desired powder charge. Pour the powder from the powder measure down the BOTTOM barrel.



WARNING:

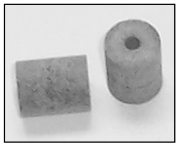
Never load powder into a gun directly from a can, powder horn or flask. Always use a separate calibrated powder measuring device. A remaining spark or ember in the barrel may cause the gun to go off and seriously injure you and/or bystanders and destroy the firearm.

d. Tap the side of the barrel to settle the powder into the breech area.

e. Now proceed to the section on "Loading the Projectile" to finish loading the BOTTOM barrel BEFORE you begin loading the TOP barrel. When you are finished loading the BOTTOM barrel you will need to use the SAME AMOUNT of powder in the TOP barrel as you have in the BOTTOM barrel. If you are using Pellets please read the next section.

WHEN LOADING PELLETIZED POWDER (PELLETS):

a. Drop the desired amount of pellets into the BOTTOM barrel with the igniter side (blackened end) down. Note: Triple 7® Pellets do not have an igniter side (blackened end) and can be loaded on either end. Using a pipe cleaner to handle the pellets makes it easier to load and keeps the oils from your hands off the pellet.



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b. Now proceed to the section on "Loading the Projectile" to finish loading the BOTTOM barrel BEFORE you begin loading the TOP barrel. When you are finished loading the BOTTOM barrel you will need to use the SAME AMOUNT of powder in the TOP barrel as you have in the BOTTOM barrel.

IMPORTANT:

Do not break or crush the pellets when loading or seating the projectile on top of the pellets. This could cause inconsistent groupings.

XIV. LOADING THE PROJECTILE:

Everymuzzleloader shoots differently. Finding the best load for your muzzleloader requires some experimenting with different powder and projectile combinations. Use the guide below to start, if you find that some other load works better in your gun, use it as long as it is within the recommended limits. This guide is only to be used as a reference and more information can be found in our product catalog or by calling our Customer Service line.

We recommend Traditions brand projectiles with all of our muzzleloaders because we have tested them thousands of times and have received the best accuracy, energy transfer and expansion with our APB (All Purpose Bullet) bullets. We have two styles of bullets that work excellent in all of our muzzleloaders; one is the APB100 which is a poly tipped bullet, it is excellent for long distance shooting because of the flat shooting trajectory. The other model is the APB200, it is our lead tipped bullet which will expand at short & long distances and uses a unique hydraulic system to transfer energy. Please see our Product catalog for more information.

.50 Caliber APB200 Lead Tip Bullets

		Velocity	Energy
100 grains of Triple 7® pellets			
250 grain bullet	**@ Muzzle**	1871	1943
100 grains of Triple 7® pellets			
275 grain bullet	**@ Muzzle**	1764	1900
100 grains of Triple 7® pellets			
300 grain bullet	**@ Muzzle**	1698	1921
100 grains of Triple 7® pellets			

Tradition's offers a wide variety of muzzleloading projectiles and sabots. Experimentation, within the recommended loading data, with different grain weight bullets and powder charges will allow you to maximize your accuracy with your muzzleloader. We offer less expensive projectiles to start out with so that you can get the feel of your muzzleloader first and then purchase the better performing bullets.

SABOTED BULLETS:

Saboted bullets form a tighter seal inside the bore and prevent gasses from escaping around the bullet as it travels out of the barrel. Saboted bullets outperform "belted" style bullets because they have a more uniform fit and therefore can and will produce higher velocities and down range energy. The saboted bullet had only one negative associated with it being hard to load down the barrel but now Traditions has come out with a "EZ Load™" sabot to give you the same easy to load feature of a belted style bullet while not compromising the ballistics. Even after several shots without cleaning you can still load the bullet down the barrel as easily as "belted" bullets. Many of our bullets already use the EZ Load™ sabot and can be purchased in a complete bullet/sabot package, please refer to our current year catalog.

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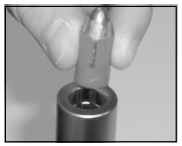
Do not pre-lube the plastic sabot or the bullet when using saboted bullets.

1. Insert the base of the bullet into the sabot, making certain the bullet is firmly & fully seated against the bottom of the sabot. Most are already put together in the packaging.

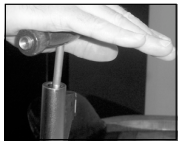
2. Place the assembled projectile into the BOTTOM barrel only.



3. Start the projectile with your thumb.

4. Using a ball starter, place the short shaft on top of the bullet and push it downward until the starter hits the top of the muzzle.

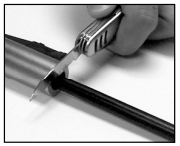
5. Push the projectile deeper into the bore using the longer shaft of the ball starter until it hits the muzzle.



6. With the loading jag on your ramrod, position the ramrod on top of the bullet inside the bore. Holding the ramrod no further than 6" over the bore apply firm pressure downward until the bullet is on top of the powder. (Holding the ramrod any higher will increase your chances of breaking your ramrod.)

NOTE – If you are using pelletized powder do not crush them when loading the bullet. Testing has shown that crushed or broken pellets will cause bullet-grouping problems.

7. After the bullet is seated fully against the powder charge, mark the ramrod at the muzzle. This will show you that the projectile is seated at the same depth each time. If you change the desired powder charge or projectile, you will need to change the mark and make a new one for the new charge.



8. Keep the ramrod inside the "LOADED" barrel to make sure you do not DOUBLE LOAD the barrels.

9. Now you can load the SAME style projectile into the TOP barrel if you are planning on firing both barrels. Follow the same procedure as the bottom barrel.

10. Make sure you remove the ramrod from the barrels before firing the gun.

IMPORTANT:

ALWAYS SEAT THE BULLET FIRMLY ON TOP OF THE POWDER CHARGE. FAILURE TO DO THIS MAY RESULT IN INJURY OR DEATH TO YOU &/OR BYSTANDERS.

NOTE – When using conical bullets or patched round ball, it is recommended to use loose powder only and we do not recommend these types of projectiles in fast twist barrels like 1 in 28".

CONICAL BULLETS:

1. Lubricate the projectile with Wonderlube 1000 Plus™.

2. Place the projectile into the barrel, using the ball starter and ramrod. Follow the same procedures as shown with the saboted bullet loading.

NOTE –Patches are not to be used with conical bullets, these bullets are made to full bore size.

It is critical that the conical bullet is the correct size to your bore. It must fit fairly tight and require moderate pressure to seat on top of the powder. A loose fit could cause the projectile to separate from the powder, particularly if the gun is subjected to jarring or sharp movement before ignition.

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XV. PRIMING YOUR MUZZLELOADER:

WARNING:

NEVER PRIME YOUR FIREARM UNTIL YOU ARE READY TO FIRE!

The 209 shotgun primer is very popular because of its' features and benefits for superior ignition. The 209 shotgun primer is exactly as it is named, a shotgun primer, the same primer used in a shotgun shell. The 209 primer has three main benefits over the #11 cap and the musket cap. First, the 209 primer is water-resistant which keeps water and moisture out for a sure-fire ignition when conditions are damp or rainy. Second, the 209 primer is larger than the caps and can be handled easier with gloves when in hunting situations. Thirdly, they are 10 times hotter than a #11 percussion cap which gives a more reliable ignition. Your new rifle uses a 209 primer.

When capping your muzzleloader please follow these instructions: Only cap or prime your muzzleloader after you have loaded the rifle and you are ready to shoot.

WARNING:

ONLY PRIME THE BARREL OR BARRELS THAT YOU ARE INTENDING TO SHOOT.

1. Make sure that the safety on your muzzleloader is in the "SAFE" or "ON" position.
2. Point the muzzleloader in a safe direction.
3. Keeping the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, open the action to expose the breech area. Using a 209 capper or your fingers, press a 209 primer into the nipple opening in each of the breech plugs that has a loaded barrel. If you are only planning on firing one barrel then ONLY prime the corresponding breech plug. Close the gun. Make sure that the action is completely closed and the top tang lever clicks back into place. When you are ready to fire the muzzleloader, place the safety in the "FIRE" or "OFF" position.

4. Your muzzleloader is now ready to fire.
5. Pulling the front trigger fires the BOTTOM barrel. Pulling the rear trigger fires the TOP barrel.

XVI. DECAPPING YOUR MUZZLELOADER AFTER FIRING:

1. Push the top tang lever to the right and open the action.

WARNING:

If you only shoot one of the two barrels you must remove BOTH 209 primers from the breech plugs.

2. Use a de-priming tool or your finger to remove the spent primer(s) from each breech plug.

XVII. HANGFIRES & MISFIRES

IF YOUR MUZZLELOADER FAILS TO FIRE:

Anyone involved with muzzleloading firearms may experience a hangfire or misfire. The following are a few simple procedures that will help you to effectively manage such occurrences.

HANGFIRE

A hangfire is a delayed ignition. The primer fires when the trigger is pulled and the main charge fires a brief moment later. There are many reasons that hangfires occur. If you are experiencing a hangfire, there are possible causes that you need to evaluate. Verify the following:

1. Verify that the primer is the correct size and properly fits inside the breech plugs.
2. Inspect that the ignition channel is clear of obstructions of both breech plugs. You may have forgotten to fire off a couple primers before loading the barrel(s) and this may be the cause of the hangfire.

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3. Verify that the proper propellant is being used and that it is the proper granulation and is free from moisture, contamination and oils.
4. Check the condition of the primers and propellant powder. For hunting situations, it is a wise practice to use fresh primers and powder. Use a fresh load for each day's hunting.

MISFIRE

A misfire is a failure of either the primer or the main charge to ignite. This could be a very hazardous situation. Extreme caution should be exercised when dealing with a misfire.

Rarely is a misfire the fault of the rifle. Generally, it can be attributed to a problem with the propellant or primer.

Should your gun fail to fire for any reason, keep the muzzle pointed at your down-range target for at least one minute with the action closed. By doing so, you make sure you are prepared for the chance of a delayed ignition.

If the percussion cap/primer did not fire:

1. Check to make certain that a primer(s) were installed and is still securely installed in both breech plugs.
2. Verify that the breech face is free of debris for both firing pins.
3. Try new primers.
4. If nothing is working at this point, you should call Traditions Customer Service Department to discuss other ways of working out this problem. Many times the problem can be worked out over the phone and save in costly shipping times & charges.

If the primer fires but the main charge does not:

1. Remove the primer(s) while keeping the barrels pointed in a safe direction. Using a cleaning pick, verify that the hole in both breech plug is clear of any obstruction.

2. Slap the side of the barrels with your hand to direct the powder into the ignition channels of the breech plugs. If you are using pellets this process will not help.
3. Verify that propellant was loaded under your projectile by running the ramrod down the bore of both barrels and check the measure marks on your ramrod. Use extreme caution to always keep the muzzle of both barrels pointed in a safe direction.
4. Check for any mechanical defects in the breech area. If your gun has repeatedly failed to fire, you will need to unload the rifle. See section XIV. At this point a beginning shooter should seek assistance from an experienced shooter. Never leave an unfired charge in either barrels.
5. After verifying the above directions re-prime the muzzleloader and fire when safe.

XVIII. REMOVING THE PROJECTILE AND THE CHARGE:

WARNING:

Keep BOTH Barrels pointed in a safe direction at all times because you still have a loaded firearm and it could go off.

METHOD 1

1. Make sure the muzzle of both barrels is pointed in a safe direction at all times and that the safety is engaged to the "ON" or "SAFE" position.
2. Open the action and carefully remove the primer from each breech plug.
3. Using the Breech Plug/Nipple wrench, supplied with the rifle, remove the breech plugs from both barrels.
4. Insert a ramrod into one of the barrels and push the load out one barrel at a time.
5. Clean and wipe all surfaces of loose fouling and debris from the inside of each barrel.

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METHOD 2

1. Open the gun and carefully remove the primer from each breech plug.
2. Using a range/bench ramrod, with a ball puller screw in one end, insert the screw end into the muzzle until the screw makes contact with the projectile.
3. Apply pressure to the end of the ramrod while at the same time turning it, allowing the ball puller screw to bite into the projectile.
4. Continue turning the ramrod until you can determine that the ball puller screw is well anchored into the projectile.
5. Firmly grasp the exposed end of the ramrod with projectile attached, pull it through the barrel and out of the muzzle. One continuous non-stop pull is generally best.
6. Repeat this process in the other barrel if it is loaded and you would like to remove the powder and projectile.

NOTE – When extracting saboted bullets the first few inches of the pull may separate the projectile from the plastic sabot. At this point the bullet will be free from the sabot and will come out easily. It will then be necessary to reinsert the ball puller screw back down the barrel(s) and screw it into the plastic sabot and also pull it out.

6. Remove powder out of each barrel.
7. Clean and dry the bore of each barrel making sure the breech area is dry before reloading fresh powder and projectile.

XIX. SIGHTING IN AND SCOPE MOUNTING

REFER TO THE BARREL JACK INSTRUCTIONS FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT SIGHTING IN YOUR EXPRESS DOUBLE. THESE ARE BASIC SIGHTING IN INSTRUCTIONS.

SIGHTING IN:

Start your sighting in at approximately 25 yards with a large target.

To adjust:

Move the rear sight slide for elevation adjustment.

Move the rear sight aperture for windage adjustment.

Move the slide and/or aperture in the direction you want the bullet to move.

NOTE – Traditions recommends while sighting in your muzzleloader that you clean the bore every three shots. By doing this you are starting out with a fresh, seasoned bore that will help prevent some shooting errors such as powder build up that could cause poor accuracy. Different projectiles and recommended powder charges can vary in accuracy, so make sure to sight in using the same projectiles and powder charges first and then change if needed. Make sure to use the recommended charges only listed in this manual.

SCOPE MOUNTING:

The Express Double is drilled and tapped for mounting a scope. A steel 1 piece base is provided with your muzzleloader. This base is unique to the Express Double and is the only base that should be used when mounting a scope or red dot sight.

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To sight in your scope, please follow the scope manufacturer's directions.

WARNING:

ONLY SIGHT IN THE BOTTOM BARREL WITH THE SCOPE JUST LIKE IF YOU WERE USING THE SIGHTS. THE TOP BARREL NEEDS TO BE ADJUSTED WITH THE BARREL JACK.

XX. CLEANING & MAINTENANCE:

A systematic routine of cleaning while shooting is strongly advised to aid in avoiding problems while loading and to optimize accuracy.

1. When cleaning the bore, use Traditions EZ Clean™ cleaning solution or Traditions EZ Clean™ foaming bore solvent for best results. Shooting patches are too small for cleaning and can be lost in the bore.

2. If a patch becomes lost in the bore, use Traditions patch puller worm attached to a ramrod for retrieval, or if necessary, remove the breech plug and push the patch out through the breech area.

Make sure that you never load a charge over a lost patch.

3. If unusual resistance is felt while loading your muzzleloader run a EZ Clean™ cleaning patch on a cleaning jag affixed to the end of a ramrod and push it up and down the full length of the barrel several times with your objective being to remove as much of the fouling build up as possible. This should be done while there is no powder or projectile inside the bore.

NOTE – It should never be necessary to hammer or excessively force a projectile down the bore. Projectiles should load firmly against the powder charge. If the projectile is the proper size, unusual resistance usually indicates the need to swab the bore with a treated cleaning patch. Use EZ Clean™ solvent if barrel is heavily fouled. An occasional cleaning of the bore with a brass Traditions bore brush is advisable to remove excessive plastic and fouling build-up.

IMPORTANT:

It has been found that a powder fouling ring can form in front of the breech plug when using pellet type powder after firing a few shots through your muzzleloader. This ring of powder fouling may obstruct you from seating the projectile fully on top of the powder charge. If this happens you must sure that there is no air space between the powder and projectile and you must remove them from the barrel. Thoroughly clean the inside of the barrel before re-loading.

4. When target shooting or sighting in, develop a habit of consistently wiping the bore with Traditions Wonder Lube 1000™ patches after each shot. Depending upon the specific load, temperature, and humidity, a short series of shots with black powder, Pyrodex® or Triple 7® can be fired before it becomes necessary to wipe the bore with Traditions EZ Clean™ patches or in order to remove fouling build-up.

If for any reason the projectile will not go all the way down to the powder charge, it will be necessary to extract the projectile from the barrel either with a bullet puller on a ramrod or the breech plug can be removed, the charge removed and the projectile forced out the end of the barrel with a long bench/range rod or an extended ramrod.

NOTE – A dirty fouled barrel will directly affect your ability to group shots. However, in a hunting situation, only a few shots will likely be taken. It is not necessary to clean and lube the interior of the barrel between shots when hunting.

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XXI. CLEANING AFTER SHOOTING

CAUTION:

Before cleaning, make absolutely certain the gun is unprimed and unloaded. Use the ramrod measuring method as described earlier in this manual.

Clean your gun as soon as possible after your shooting session. To leave a gun unclean in just a short amount of time can result in serious and damaging corrosion.

ADVICE – Take care when cleaning not to get water or solvent into the trigger assembly.

NOTE – Regardless of the cleaning method, you must remove and thoroughly clean both breech plugs and the receiver during each cleaning. Be certain to generously lubricate the threads of both breech plugs with Traditions Breech plug grease before reinstalling.

CLEANING METHOD

A thorough cleaning requires the complete disassembly of the firearm every time you shoot your muzzleloader.

1. Make sure the firearm is unprimed and unloaded.
2. Remove the ramrod from the forend and thimble.
3. Remove the forend.
4. Remove the barrels away from the receiver by lifting up and out.
5. Pour 8-10 inches of hot, soapy water into a secured pail.
6. Immerse the breech end of the barrels into the cleaning solution so that the water is above the breech opening.
7. Using a cleaning patch affixed to a jag or a cleaning brush, pump the soapy water repetitively through one barrel at a time by raising and lowering the ramrod until bore is clean. Repeat for the other barrel.
8. When both barrels are clean, remove them from the liquid. Run dry cleaning patches up and down both bores to dry inside. Wipe outside of barrels with dry cloth.
9. Clean receiver area with EZ Clean™ spray and a soft bristle brush to remove any fouling or debris. Wipe receiver dry with cloth.
10. Lightly coat outside and inside of barrel and all other metal parts including the receiver with Wonderlube 1000 Plus™. Apply Traditions breech plug grease to the threads of both breech plugs.
11. Reassemble the muzzleloader.

To clean the muzzleloader without removing the barrel.

1. Make sure the gun is unloaded and unprimed.
2. Open the gun to expose both breech plugs.
3. Using the breech plug wrench, remove both breech plugs from the barrels. Drop each of the breech plugs into the Traditions EZ Clean™ bath and let soak until you are finished cleaning your barrels and other parts of the muzzleloader. Use a pipe cleaner and dry cloth to clean the inside and outside of the breech plugs.
4. To clean the inside of both barrels, use the convenient Traditions foaming bore solvent - #A1758. Pump the foam into the barrel until it comes out the other side. The solvent begins to work immediately. Run a few dry patches up and down the bore until they come out light grey or white.
5. Lubricate the inside and outside of both barrels with Wonderlube 1000 Plus™ patches - #A1362.
6. Clean the breech plug threads inside both barrels by using a Traditions breech brush(A3878). Clean receiver area with EZ Clean™ spray and a soft bristle brush to remove any fouling or debris. Dry receiver and breech area. Lightly oil all metal surfaces.
7. Apply Traditions breech plug grease to the threads of both breech plugs and re-install.

8. Make sure safeties and all functions of the muzzleloader work properly.

NOTE – Store your rifle in a cool, dry, secured area. Storage in a gun case should be avoided as it may hasten condensation and corrosion. During long periods of storage, periodically check for signs of pitting or rusting on the surface and in the barrel bore.

XXII. HELPFUL MUZZLELOADING ACCESSORIES

In order to participate fully in the sport, you will probably want to consider the purchase of the various Traditions accessories mentioned in this manual. Your firearms retailer should stock a complete line of accessories from Traditions. If not, ask him to order them for you. Visit him soon to discover all the ways to make your muzzleloading experience even more enjoyable and convenient. Tradition's produces a VHS & DVD to show you step by step instructions on how to use the various styles of muzzleloaders including Break-Open, Bolt Action, Percussion & Flintlock models. Please visit our website for more information.

Write to Traditions for a current catalog showing a complete line of firearms, ammunition and accessories or view it on our web site www.traditionsfirearms.com.

Your local retailer can special order any Traditions products you want.

COPYRIGHT INFORMATION:

Please note the copyright on the following products.

Traditions™ Performance Firearms, Express Double™ Muzzleloader, all Traditions™ EZ™ Clean products, Pyrodex®, all Wonderlube™ products, and Triple 7®.

Cut Along Dotted Line

PREFERRED CUSTOMER WARRANTY REGISTRATION CARD

PostScript Picture (UPC Symbol)

Referencing the label on the end of the carton, please write in the last 5 digits located on the right half of the UPC code into the boxes below.

UPC # 4 0 5 8 9 – _ _ _ _

Model # _____

Serial # (from barrel) _____

Name _____ Age _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Day Time Phone # _____ Date of Purchase _____

Purchase Price _____ Store Name _____

1. **What is your age?** ❑1 Under 18 ❑2 18-24 ❑3 25-34 ❑4 35-44 ❑5 45-54 ❑6 55-64 ❑7 over 65
2. **Reason for your purchase** ❑1 Hunting ❑2 Target Shooting ❑3 Personal use ❑4 Gift ❑5 Raffle Prize ❑6 Other
3. **Do you own?** ❑1 Other muzzleloaders ❑2 Over/Under Shotgun ❑3 Side by Side Shotgun ❑4 Semi-Auto Shotgun ❑5 Pump Shotgun ❑6 Cartridge Rifle ❑7 Handgun ❑8 Bow
4. **Where purchased?** ❑1 Gun Shop ❑2 General Sporting Goods Store ❑3 Hardware Store ❑4 Chain Store ❑5 Mail Order Catalog ❑6 Internet Store
5. **Is this your first muzzleloader?** ❑1 Yes ❑2 No
6. **Which factors influenced your purchase?** ❑1 Previously owned a ***Traditions*** product ❑2 Magazine Ad/Article ❑3 Internet/Website ❑4 ***Traditions*** Catalog ❑5 Recommendation of Salesperson ❑6 Recommendation of a Friend ❑7 Price ❑8 Features ❑9 Other
7. **What type of game do you hunt?** ❑1 Whitetail Deer ❑2 Mule Deer ❑3 Elk ❑4 Bear ❑5 Antelope ❑6 Turkey ❑7 Small Game ❑8 Other
8. **What do you think is the best way to get information about Hunting & Hunting products?** ❑1 Magazine Ads ❑2 Internet/Website ❑3 Television Programs ❑4 Radio

9a. **Which magazine do you read?** _____

b. **Which TV hunting show do you watch?** _____

❑ Check here to receive a free ***Traditions*** catalog showing muzzleloadings' largest selection of firearms and accessories or visit our website at www.traditionsfirearms.com

❑ To receive a ***Traditions*** Firearms Logo cap and catalog, send $11.95 along with your warranty registration card.

NOTE: Return this card within 15 days of purchase in order to validate your limited lifetime warranty.

Please complete all information above and mail to:

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